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8 September 1965

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
Office of Current Intelligence

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
8 September 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems1. Colombia

An attempt on 1 September by the army in Bucaramanga to arrest 46 suspected members of the Communist paramilitary Army of National Liberation (ELN) failed because of a leak to the press. Since then, the army has tightened its security and has arrested at least seven suspects.

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A probable source of trouble in the near future is the strike by secondary teachers--on 3 September, 330 national high schools were reported closed, and 75,000 grade-school teachers are said to have joined the strike. More than 5,000 employees of the Ministry of Education were also expected to walk out in sympathy with the teachers. Communist exploitation of the strike could lead to demonstrations, and possibly to violence should the government use the army to enforce the state-of-siege rule against demonstrations. The government may also face greater problems with labor if the Union of Colombian Workers calls a general strike, as threatened, over the proposed program of exchange reform and taxation.

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3. Peru

Political activity in Lima has become concerned almost exclusively with the issue of Communism and insurgency since the opening of Congress in early August.

The opposition-controlled Congress quickly seized the political initiative from the presidency by passing two counterinsurgency bills, one stipulating severe penalties for subversives engaged in violence and the other authorizing a bond issue to defray military expenses. Opposition parties--APRA and the National Odriista Union (UNO)--also pushed through a vote to establish a joint legislative committee to investigate alleged Communist infiltration of the public administration.

On 3 September, Congress again took the initiative by inviting the entire cabinet to appear in the Chamber of Deputies to outline government policy vis-a-vis current political problems, with particular emphasis on Communism and internal security. APRA congressional leader Arnando Villanueva has stated that the invitation is intended to provoke a free and open exchange of views and not as an interpellation.

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